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Edition

March 25-March 31, 1998

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Vol. 15, No. 25

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NEWS BRIEFS

Bars may close one hour earlier in Orange

ORANGE—Bars in Orange may end up closing an hour earlier on the weekends if a ruling is upheld.

An administrative law judge ruled in favor of a city ordinance that rolled back closing time of the city's bars to 2 a.m. A group of tavern owners previously challenged the measure and were granted a stay. The tavern owners may elect to get another stay, but for the city it is considered a victory at this stage," said city attorney Ronald Hunt.

Cosby extortionist is sentenced to jail time

NEW YORK—One of the principals involved in a plot to extort \$40 million from Bill Cosby was sentenced to more than five years in prison yesterday.

"I see myself facing many years in jail for something that I thought was a very humanitarian thing," said convicted extortionist Jose Medina. Medina and Autumn Jackson faced a demand for money to Cosby to prevent Jackson from naming Cosby as her out-of-wedlock father.

Pope John Paul makes second trip to Nigeria

VATICAN CITY—At 77, Pope John Paul II will test his health and his powers to persuade during a three-day visit to Nigeria.

Roman Catholic bishops in the West African country now in the grip of military rule are hoping the Pope will influence Nigerian leaders towards releasing political prisoners. The Pope is also scheduled to meet with leaders of Nigeria's dominant religion—Islam—before the visit ends.

Rosa Parks honored with plaque in bus station

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Rosa Parks' heroic refusal to give up her bus seat to a white man is depicted in a new plaque in her honor at a city bus station.

"Her single, profound, courageous act has made a difference for all of us," said Mayor Richard Riordan, praising her contribution. The plaque features a collage that includes Mrs. Parks seated in a bus and gazing out a window and a police officer taking her fingerprints after she was arrested.

School board approves measure requiring minority writers

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—San Francisco's school board has approved a measure requiring high school students to read at least one book each year by a minority author, a proposal that sparked debate across the United States.

The district has just made writers of color the core curriculum and, in doing so, San Francisco is sending a message to the rest of the country that this is a new day in public education," said Steve Phillips, who co-authored the original proposal with fellow board member Keith Jackson.

Clinton to hold more town meetings on race and sports

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Clinton's next town-hall style discussion of race relations, scheduled for April 14 in Houston, will focus on sports and be nationally broadcast on ESPN, his spokesman said Friday.

A second, smaller group meeting on race will be moderated by P. J. Finn Lehrer on July 8 at a location yet to be determined.

Clinton taped a public service announcement that was aired in January during the Super Bowl on sports and race. The president said athletics is a place where people from various ethnic and racial backgrounds come together for a common goal.

Study shows alarming dropout rate among Camden High School students

By Melanie Burney
Associated Press Writer

CAMDEN (AP)—Seven out of every 10 students who enter Camden's high schools drop out—a sharp increase from only five years ago, according to a Rowan University study.

And the dropout rate was even higher—about 80 percent—for Hispanic boys.

The Camden Educational Initiative study tracked 1,463 eighth-graders who entered the city's two main high schools, Camden High School and Woodrow Wilson High School, in 1993.

The study, prepared in cooperation with the district, found that only 442 graduated in 1997, while 730 were deemed dropouts and 291 transfered, the majority of whom never completed their education. Another eight percent

drop out before they even get to high school, the study said.

Five years ago, Camden's dropout rate was 47 percent. Based on interviews with 400 recent dropouts, the study concluded that many students who do not graduate have "fallen victim to crime, drug, teen-age pregnancy, gangs or plain indifference to an educational system that does not seem to address their needs."

"It's disturbing, but I don't think you should single Camden out," said Rowan Camden campus Dean Eric Clark, who wrote the study, said Friday. "This is a national problem. It's a sad story to figure out how to respond to that growth."

Clark said the critical year is ninth-grade, when about 35 percent of the dropouts left school. By then, they're old enough to legally make decisions

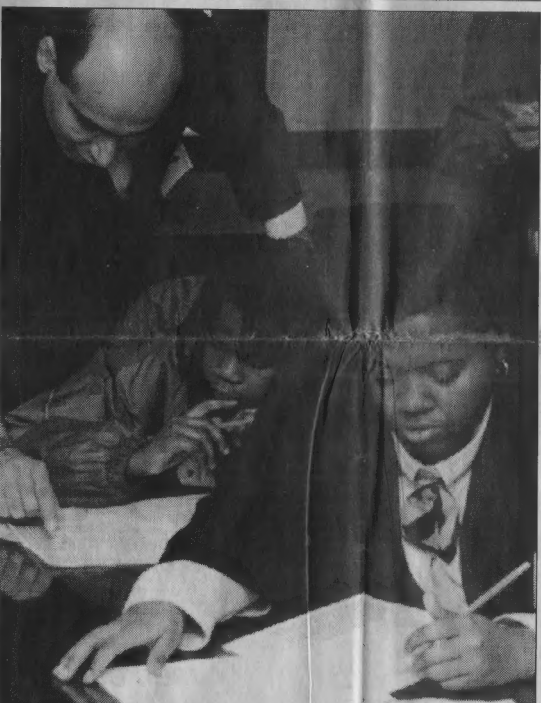
about their education, he said.

Commissioned by the city school board, the study began in 1995 and examined school district data from 1993 through 1997. It did not include data from the Dr. Charles E. Brinton Medical Arts High School.

The dropout rate reached 80 percent for Hispanic boys at Camden High School and 78 percent among Hispanic boys at Woodrow Wilson High School.

Camden, with about 20,000 public school students, is the largest school district in southern New Jersey. It is also among the poorest districts in the state.

Clark said Camden must provide flexible daytime and evening adult school programs to accommodate students with jobs and children. It would cost between \$800,000 and \$900,000 to implement such a program, he said.



Mahesh Chandra of Deloitte & Touche works with the participants of "School to Work Day."

Students get a look at corporate life

NEWARK—In the '90s students are going to more than just the museum for field trips.

Students from Newark and Plainfield recently got a chance to view one of the nation's largest corporations, the fourth annual "School to Work Day" at the Pappas-Hall sponsored by Deloitte and Touche.

As part of "School to Work Day," businesses across the country are encouraged to invite at least one class of students into their offices to learn the inner workings of business and the professions.

"We believe that this program is important, because, it is not only a way of exposing students to careers that they would never know about, but also a motivating factor for such students to pursue rewarding careers that will enable them to have financial stability, be an asset to their Communities, and gain self-respect," said Anthony Pappas, co-chair of the "School to Work Day" committee at Deloitte & Touche.

"School to Work Day" provided a learning packed-day as students from Chabad School Academy and Malcolm X Shabbaz High School in Newark and Hubbard Middle School in Plainfield, participated in four career mod-

ules including, management information systems, management consulting, tax preparation and human resources. "This program gets you ready for life. I really liked the MIS computer module. Computers are so important because they help us get information quickly," said Maricet Scott, a 9th grader from Chabad School Academy, who is interested in becoming a pediatrician.

"I really enjoyed the management consulting module. I didn't know that they are companies that help other companies like this. Also, management consulting seems like a career where you can meet a lot of people and work in many different industries. It seems like it's a job that won't bore you," said Diane Williams, an junior from Chabad School Academy.

"School-to-Work Day" was founded by Dale Caldwell, a New Brunswick resident. Proving that African Americans can rise to the top of corporate America, Caldwell was senior manager at Deloitte & Touche and now serves as national recruiting director. School-to-Work Day takes place in more than 10 countries and 90 United States cities on the first Wednesday in March each year sponsored by several major corporations.

Corporate employees volunteer their time to teach and interact with students for the day. "I know where these students are coming from; I live in Newark. I always knew I was going to college, but many of these children don't have that same expectation. We're here to provide more options," said School To Work Volunteer Traci Stewart, who is a Deloitte & Touche financial department Consulting Group employee.

"Imagine if Puff Daddy and Babyface didn't know about the career of music. Imagine if Tiger Woods didn't know about the profession of golf. These people wouldn't have been able to contribute their talents to society," said Caldwell, addressing the 70 students on hand.

"School-to-Work Day" at Deloitte & Touche has enjoyed so much success that the firm decided to expand the concept into a summer co-op for 12 inner city students. Students who are interested in participating submit resumes and attend an interview at Deloitte & Touche. Selected participants attend a mini-course to learn etiquette and the importance of personal appearance. Along with their salary, they were also given transportation, clothing, and lunch allowances.

Police beating in Jersey City

By G. mattox

Independent investigation is currently underway into a case of an alleged police beating of two African-American men by white officers of the Jersey City Police Department.

Reginald Wilson and Eric Morgan were stopped around 1 a.m., January 25, 1998, on their way to a fast food restaurant. Wilson, 29, alleges to have been pulled from his auto, thrown to the pavement and assaulted about the face and head by plainclothes police officers with guns drawn. Wilson sustained severe head, neck and back injuries during the altercation with the police, who he claims did not identify themselves as policemen.

Wilson and Morgan were taken to the South District Precinct where Morgan was later released. Wilson was later taken to the Montgomery Street Station for booking and again assaulted while in handcuffs, resulting in injuries to his left eye.

The Jersey City Militia Man March Coalition has asked for an independent investigation into the incident that is currently being conducted with the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office and the Office of the State Attorney General. This investigation will lead to a Grand Jury hearing which will make a determination of the charges to be filed. Reverend Austin Harold, President of the Coalition and pastor of the Inter-Denominational Christian Community Church said that the incident warranted an investigation. "In Jersey City, there is no Citizen Review Board, so it's not effective for the police to police themselves and come up with anything objective."

Suicide rate among young blacks surges between 1980 and 1995

By Tara Meyer
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA (AP)—The suicide rate among young blacks more than doubled between 1980 and 1995, and some researchers wonder whether middle-class life is to blame.

"You don't belong in any world," said Dr. Carl Bell, a mental health expert who works with young blacks in Chicago. "You don't belong in the white middle-class and you don't belong among poor blacks. There is an alienation that occurs."

In 1995, there were 4.5 suicides per 100,000 blacks ages 10 to 19, up from 2.1 in 1980, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday.

The study did not actually assess whether middle-class blacks killed themselves at higher rates than other blacks. Toni Durant of the CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control said the adjustment to middle-class life "is one possible explanation."

Historically, suicide rates have been higher among white youths, but this study shows the gap is narrowing.

The rate among young whites was more than twice that among blacks in 1980. But by 1995, the suicide rate among young whites was only 42 percent higher, or 6.4 per 100,000 people. The rate among young whites in 1980 was 3.4.

Kenya Napper Bello, a black woman in Atlanta whose husband was a Coca-Cola executive who killed himself in 1994 at age 27, said many blacks struggle to maintain their identity in the corporate world.

"It's not so much middle-class as it is trying to assimilate into corporate America and the depression many middle-class blacks have working there," Ms. Bello said.

From 1980 to 1995, 3,030 blacks between the ages 10 and 19 killed themselves in the United States. Guns accounted for 66 percent of those suicides.

Africans to Clinton: invest in our future to atone for the past

By Ian Stewart
Associated Press Writer

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP)—In a region shackled by poverty and debt, the debate about whether America or any other nation should apologize for slavery is widely regarded as an intellectual luxury.

As Bill Clinton pays the first visit to sub-Saharan Africa by a U.S. president in more than 20 years, many Africans say they would rather have trade, aid, loans and debt relief than dwell on the sins of the distant past.

"There are more things that Africa needs from America than a apology," says human rights activist Kofi Woods of Liberia. "Practical actions by Washington will demonstrate to Africa and the Third World that America is ready to do away with the past."

herded aboard disease-ridden boats to journey into servitude on the sugar and cotton plantations of the Americas."

In Ghana's coastal town of Elmina, dank stone castles rise along the coast. Built by Portuguese and Swedish traders in the 15th century, they became Dutch and British depots where human cargo was loaded onto ships. Today, Ghanaians are again debating how to make the castles more attractive to tourists. A restoration project is under way, financed partly by a \$10 million grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Some 10 million Africans were sold into slavery between the 1500s and 1800s, often battered by their own tribal kings and chiefs to European traders for gunpowder, alcohol and trinkets.

"The scars of slavery are still there," said Kofi Siane, a writer and former diplomat from Ghana, to descendants of repatriated slaves.

But in neither case could the experiment be called a success. Both countries have become corrupt, looted wrecks, ravaged by civil war, corruption and famine.

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Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

JERSEY CITY—Jersey City State College offers a series of one-day computer workshops designed to introduce students to computers and software applications on Saturdays. "Introduction to Windows 95" will be held today. For more info, call 201-200-3069.

PLAINFIELD—The Mothers' Center of Central New Jersey will hold its semi-annual consignment sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church. For more info, call 908-561-1751.

EDISON—A workshop on job search techniques will be held at Middlesex County College. High school students from more than 10 county high schools are expected to participate. For more info, call 908-906-2596.

NEWARK—A seminar will be held on "Building Relationships: How to Work with On-Airport Tenants" from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. For more info, call 212-435-6566.

PLAINFIELD—A Career Day will be held as part of the celebration of National Sisterhood Week at the Plainfield Armory beginning at 7:30 p.m. For more info, call 908-766-9727.

NEWARK—A forum on "Teenage Pregnancy" will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. in the Danzig Auditorium at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. For more info, call 926-3364.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

NEW BRUNSWICK—The NJ Arts Access Task Force will hold its second statewide conference on "Access to the Arts" at the Hyatt Hotel. For more info, call 973-593-0189.

FREEHOLD—The Chosen Preholders meeting will be held from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Hall of Records, Main Street. For more info, call 908-431-7310.

NEWARK—A Platform for Children will be presented to candidates for Mayor and County Executive at a public meeting at First Hopewell Baptist Church. For more info, call 201-461-9550.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

NEWARK—Legions of progressive proportion all over the county will go to Washington, to the White House, to demand unconditional amnesty for, and the release of all political prisoners. The '98 Natl Committee is seeking endorsements from organizations, etc. For more info call Frontline Artists at 973-462-1771.

UNION—A Wealth of Resources in NJ: Showcasing Research, will be

held at Kean University from 8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more info, contact Dr. Mark Lender at Kean University.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

DUNELLEN—Come visit the Easter bunny at the 15th Annual Spring Fling Craft Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Dunellen United Methodist Church.

JERSEY CITY—Jersey City State College offers a series of one-day computer workshops designed to introduce students to computers and software applications on Saturdays. "Introduction to Microsoft Word Office 97" will be held today. For more info, call 201-200-3069.

GARWOOD—A family fun weekend will be held at Crafty Kitchen/Ban Franklin Crafts at 10 a.m. For more info, call 908-798-0217.

SOMERSET—Free First Time Home Buyer's Seminar and Expo will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Cultural Center. For more info, call 908-704-8901 (press 3) or 732-360-1700, ext. 222 or 224.

BELLE MEAD—The second annual "Fete de Maison," a series of house parties to raise money for the Resources Center for Women and Their Families will be held at the center. For more info, call 908-559-0003.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

EDISON—Middlesex County College will hold an Open House for prospective students and their families from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the College's Edison campus. For more info, call 1-888-998-4622.

JERSEY CITY—Jersey City State College will hold Spring Open House from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in room 202 of Heppner Hall. For more info, call 201-200-3405.

MONDAY, MARCH 30

CALDWELL—A law enforcement open house will be held at 6 p.m. in the Alumni Theater to provide officers with a convenient way to earn their criminal justice degree without attending on-campus classes. For more info, call 973-228-4424, ext. 285.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

PLAINFIELD—A business meeting will be held at 8 p.m. in the library about the Public Hearing and the final adoption of the 1998-99 budget.

EAST RUTHERFORD—The NJ Nets will host Salvation Army rite at the Meadowlands Continental Arena. The Nets are playing the Atlanta Hawks. For more info, call 908-851-9227.

Julia Hood is Senior Citizen Mayor For A Day



NEWARK—Ms. Julia Hood, a senior advocate and community activist, was recently named "1998 Honorary Senior Citizen mayor for the Day" at a recent City Hall ceremony by Newark Mayor Sharpe James. Hood has been a Newark resident since 1934. She owned a dry cleaning and tailoring business after World War II, and eventually operated the Franchise Beauty Service until she retired in 1979. Because of her great ambition and energy, the great-grandmother continued to keep busy as a volunteer at the Walter White Child Care Center. The experience was so rewarding to Ms. Hood that she came out of retirement, enrolled in classes at Bloomfield College, attended workshops in Early Childhood Education, and became a full-time Pre-School Teacher.

—Photo by William Ramos

A heartfelt gesture



UNION—Arnold Hamm, at left, of Plainfield, board of directors member of the New Jersey Affiliate of the American Heart Association, accepts a \$3,000 check from Comcast Area Vice President Joseph J. Fischer, second from left, and Buck Dopp, Comcast's Vice President and General Manager. The money was raised through a special Marketing Campaign in which new customers donated a portion of the cost of their installation to the organization. The grant was presented during a breakfast reception at the cable operator's Union facility.

Sheriff Oxley's prison program on Ricki Lake



MONMOUTH COUNTY—The Monmouth County Correctional Institution and Sheriff Joseph W. Oxley, in photo at center were featured along with several youthful gang members as guests of the Ricki Lake TV Show. Sheriff Oxley and Warden Clifford J. Daniels, in back row center, supervised the filming, which appeared on an episode of the national TV show during week of March 16. With the group, at right, is Corrections Officer Allan Brunner.

National organization president speaks at university



WEST LONG BRANCH—Dr. Julianne Malveaux, in photo third from right, talks with some attendees after her speech on the Economic State of Black America and the impact of recent policies initiated during the Clinton administration. Dr. Malveaux is the president of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. She is an economist, writer, syndicated columnist, radio and television commentator, and business and labor market analyst. Pictured above are from right, Helen Scott, United Nations representative for NANBPWC, Peola Smith-Smith, national second vice president NANBPWC, Malveaux, Lillian J. Williams, and, in foreground Stephanie Williams, a Social Work senior.

—by Avery Grant

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BRUNTON:
24 Union Avenue
SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS:
1005 Springfield Avenue
LIVINGTON:
251 South Livingston Avenue
LONG BRANCH:
180 Broadway

MADISON:
18 Waverly Place
MILBURN:
240 Milburn Avenue
NAVESINK:
Highway 28 and Valley Drive
PLAINFIELD:
130 Main Street
ROXBURY TOWNSHIP:
Route 16, 1st Floor, Public Hall
SCOTT PLAINS:
1st Avenue

SPRINGFIELD:
173 Mountain Avenue
SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS:
Highway 7 and Route 208
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845 Route 208, City Plaza
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NATIONAL BRIEFS

Nation's black mayors convene in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS—Mayor Marc R. Morial has announced that the City of New Orleans will host the 24th Annual Convention of the National Council of Black Mayors, Inc. (NCMB), April 14-18, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

The NCMB 24th Annual Convention, observing the theme, *Take the Moral High Ground: A Blueprint for Affirmative Action*, will examine the continued role of African-American elected officials serving their constituents. During the four-day conference, a majority of the 426 member mayors will come to New Orleans to address the most critical issues facing America's cities and towns. An exciting schedule of convention activities will include the Black Women Mayor's Caucus Workshop, Youth Day, and a Town Hall Meeting at Dillard University. Featured guests include an impressive line-up of dignitaries from public, private, academic and religious sectors.

The NCMB Convention is held annually in a city led by a member Mayor. New Orleans was selected as host city two years ago, and the mayors look forward to visiting Denver, Colorado in 1999. Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, NCMB is a non-profit, non-partisan service organization providing management and technical assistance to its membership.

Charles R. Stith named Ambassador to Tanzania

WASHINGTON—The President today announced his intent to nominate Charles R. Stith to be U.S. Ambassador to the United Republic of Tanzania.

Mr. Charles Stith, of Boston, Massachusetts, is the Founder and National President of the Organization for a New Equality (ONE). Founded in 1985, ONE's top priority is providing economic opportunity for people historically excluded from the economic mainstream. It has offices in Boston, Washington and Kansas City. From 1979 to 1994, Mr. Stith served as senior minister of the Union United Methodist Church in Boston. In 1994 Mr. Stith was selected to serve as a member of President Clinton's Special Delegation to monitor South Africa's first multiracial elections.

Mr. Stith earned a B.A. from Baker University, an M.Div. from the Interdenominational Theological Center, and a Th.M. from Harvard University Divinity School. In 1991, he received an honorary Doctor of Divinity from his Alma Mater, Baker University.

Nicholson joins civil rights pilgrimage to Montgomery and Selma

MONTGOMERY, AL—Jim Nicholson, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, will join his counterpart Roy Romer and a delegation of Republican and Democrat Members of Congress today for a weekend of prayer and racial reconciliation commemorating the 33rd anniversary of "Bloody Sunday," the march from Selma to Montgomery that led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

"We Republicans are proud of our legacy of having provided the votes necessary to pass the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965," said Chairman Nicholson, who will join Romer and U.S. Representatives Amo Houghton (R-NY) and John Lewis (D-GA) for a church service and dedication of the Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church at National Landmark. Chairman Nicholson will also take part in a reenactment of the voting rights march across Edmund Pettus bridge leading out of Selma, where marchers were beaten by police on March 7, 1965.

Today, 33 years later, the premiere civil rights hurdle we face is ensuring that all children have access to a quality education," Nicholson said. "Republicans want to refocus teaching on the fundamentals of education and return resources, decisions, and control to parents and teachers so that all children may enjoy the future that the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act guaranteed them."

Harvey C. Russell, Jr., 1918-1998: Longtime PepsiCo executive

CRESTWOOD, NY—Harvey C. Russell, Jr., a retired executive of PepsiCo, Inc., was the first African-American to rise to the rank of Vice President of the company, a major corporation, died on Friday, March 20, after a long illness. He was 79 years old.

Mr. Russell began a distinguished, 33-year career with Pepsi-

MILLION US AID signs \$15 million grant

WASHINGTON—Rev. Leon Sullivan, at right, was joined by New Jersey Congressman Donald Payne and Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter, at far left, in signing a \$15 million grant from MILLION USAID to continue the work of the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help (IFESH) in training US teachers and African bankers for service in 10 African countries. Rev. Sullivan is the founder/president of IFESH. Also participating in the Capital Hill ceremony were US AID Administrator J. Brian Atwood and California Congressman Nancy Pelosi. Several hundred friends and supporters of Rev. Sullivan, including members of the African diplomatic corps and corporate officials, witnessed the signing.



Satcher named new Surgeon General Women in Dominican Republic face problems in equality



Dr. David Satcher, a physician, scholar and public health advocate was sworn in earlier this year as the 16th Surgeon General of the United States and as Assistant Secretary for Health. Vice President Al Gore administered the oath of office to Dr. Satcher at a White House Ceremony in the Oval Office with President Bill Clinton. A native of Alabama, Dr. Satcher is a graduate of Morehouse College. He received his M.D. and Ph.D. from Case Western University in 1970.

C. DeLores Tucker announces new call against gangsta rap

RICHMOND, VA—Dr. C. DeLores Tucker, along with Sen. Delegate Dwight C. Jones, State Senator L. Louise Lucas and eight other legislators led a press conference at the Richmond, VA, State Capitol to announce new steps against the perpetrators of gangsta/rap to children. Dr. Tucker and the legislators called for pension divestment of all record companies which sell and promote gangsta/rap to children. Tucker said, "We seek to strike at the financial foundation of companies that perpetuate this filth and are poisoning the bodies and souls of our children." Following the press conference, Dr. Tucker was introduced to the Virginia House of Delegates by Delegate Jones and received a standing ovation from the legislative body.

Dr. Tucker spoke at the National Chair and the convening founder of the National Political Congress of Black Women, Inc. (NPCBW), and on behalf of over 75 national organizations such as the NAACP, the Progressive National Baptist Convention, National Baptist Convention of the World Baptist Alliance, the Congressional Black Caucus, and Seagrams, which owns MCA, and 50 percent of Interscope Records.



Press conference participants include, from left, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee of Texas, Dr. Ramona Edelin, Chair of NPCBW Commission of Presidential Appointments, Dr. C. DeLores Tucker, Chair of the NPCBW, Johnnie Booker, Coordinator of CPA, Congresswoman Corrine Brown of Florida, and Brenda Gritton-Michell, Commission on Presidential Appointments.

Cola Company as a field Representative in 1950. In 1952, he was put in charge of a "special market" sales team that reached deep into the African-American community. Mr. Russell was named Vice President of Corporate Planning for Pepsi-Cola in 1962 and Vice President of PepsiCo in 1965. In 1968, he was appointed Corporate Vice President of Community Affairs, overseeing numerous public and community relations activities.

Mr. Russell was born in 1918 in Louisville, KY, where both of his parents were professional educators. A man of many "firsts," he served during World War II as the first Black commissioned officer in the US Coast Guard. Prior to joining Pepsi-

CO, he worked for the United Nations Development Program, published this month, showed mixed prospects for women in the Caribbean. On the positive side, the Bahamas and Barbados made the list of the top 20 countries in the world in giving women equal opportunities.

The story is quite different in the Dominican Republic, however. The United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women said women in the Dominican Republic face unfair laws, widespread domestic violence, and many are forced into prostitution by poverty.

The Dominican Republic's own report to the United Nations shows some of the problems women face. One of six women will be a victim of physical violence in her lifetime and, in most cases, the attacker will be a family member. Also, a woman is raped every six hours in the country of nearly eight million people.

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King Family: Let Ray die at home

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—A son of late civil rights leader Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. says Tennessee would be cruel to deny a medical furlough to King's assassin for his final days.

"Here's a man who's close to death," Dexter King said of his father. "The humanitarian aspect is not being considered."

Ray, 70, who suffers from a serious liver disease and was briefly in a coma last week, was in fair condition Friday at a hospital.

Ray pleaded guilty to allow furloughs for inmates "in imminent peril of death" so they may spend their final months with loved ones and receive special care. Ray asked for a furlough last year but was rejected by the Department of Correction.

"We have not received an application as of this moment," Correction spokeswoman Pam Hobbs said Friday.

Ray pleaded guilty to 1969 to killing King in 1968. He drew a 99-year prison sentence and has been trying to take back the guilty plea ever since.

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977 9130 Cleveland Avenue
Richtel Shopping Center, Route 22*

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

PLAINFIELD—Dr. Tobey Marx, Director of the Gerontology Program will speak about ways to improve the memory of 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Plainfield Senior Citizens Service Center. The Center is fully wheelchair accessible and stroke free. Transportation can be provided. For more info, call 973-753-3506.

PLAINFIELD—An exercise class will be held at The Senior Citizens Center at 11 a.m. every Wednesday. For more info, call 908-753-3506.

NEW BRUNSWICK—The public is invited to attend a free seminar on Lasers and Cosmetic Surgery at The Skin Laser Center at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital from 6 to 7:30 p.m. To register, call 732-418-8146.

CRANFORD—Union County College will conduct its Biannual Blood Drive from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Cranford Campus Gymnasium. For more info, call 908-279-7055.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

NEW BRUNSWICK—A course on Stress Management for Health and Happiness will be held at 7 p.m. at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital's Director Center for Stress Management. For more info, call 732-826-3000.

JERSEY CITY—Greenville Hospital presents a special health fair for the community which will feature a wide range of free health tests and screenings. The fair will run from 10 to noon all day and free to the public. For more info, call 201-547-8100.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

PLAINFIELD—An exercise class will be held at The Senior Citizens Center on every Friday. For more info, call 908-753-3506.

JERSEY CITY—Hudson County residents can get a free mammogram and Pap test. Call for an appointment at 201-946-6430.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

NEWARK—You are cordially invited to attend the Newark Best Friends "Health is Happiness Workshop" from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more info, call 973-623-6685.

Blacks invited to participate in stroke study

ENGLEWOOD, Colo.—More than 700,000 Americans have a stroke each year, and of that number 150,000 die African-Americans are nearly twice as likely as other Americans to suffer a stroke and die from a stroke, according to the national Stroke Association. Yet most published clinical stroke studies include only a small proportion of African-Americans.

American subjects, leaving many important questions unanswered about stroke among our population. Now, the African-American Antiplaquet Stroke Prevention Study (AAASPS), the first national program to exclusively address stroke prevention in the African-American community, has enrolled 16,000 patients, bringing it one-third of the way towards its goal. Researchers are actively seeking 12,000 more patients across the United States to participate, and Newark is one of the cities in which participants are being sought. The study is sponsored by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke of the National Institutes of Health.

"AAASPS is the most important study of its kind to date, and we're very excited about seeing the results," says Harold W. Todd, president of the National Stroke Association (NSA) in Englewood, Colo. "The African-American community has been understudied, and these conditions rates are very impressive."

Most strokes occur when a blood clot blocks an artery to the brain. Clots may form in the brain itself or travel there from the heart. TClLD and aspirin, both of which have been approved by the FDA as stroke preventers, belong to a group of drugs called "antiplatelet" agents. Both make blood cells, called platelets, less "sticky" and decrease the tendency for clots to form and cause stroke.

To be eligible for the study, a participant must be an African-American who has suffered a stroke within the last 90 days. Each participant undergoes a screening exam and lab tests to determine eligibility. Study visits, medications, routine lab monitoring test and transportation are provided free of charge. Followup visits are scheduled throughout the study and provisions are made for communicating with the patient's personal physician. To find out more about enrollment, call the New Jersey Medical School, 973-972-6571.

African Americans must shed the myth that AIDS is a gay problem

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson

According to a recent report by the Center for Disease Control, African Americans accounted for nearly one out of two AIDS-related deaths in 1996 and by the year 2000 will make up half of all AIDS cases in the U.S. This should finally put to rest the myth that AIDS is a disease that affects mostly gays.

But it probably won't. Many African Americans still equate AIDS with homosexuality. Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, some Black writers and rappers publicly call it a deviant and degenerate lifestyle that threatens Black communities. They ridicule Black males who don't act like "real men as 'studies' and 'taggots'."

The only comprehensive study that measured Black attitudes toward gays, published in the Journal of Sex Research in 1995, found that Blacks, like many Whites, had not slackened

up one bit in their hostility toward gays. While there was less anti-gay sentiment among the more educated, less religious and more affluent Blacks, many still continued to heap special scorn on African-American gay men.

Chalking up the fear and loathing toward men, the abolitionism. The gospel singing Winans sisters drew heavy fire from some gay groups in 1997 for their anti-gay single "Not Natural," but there were no major protests from the Black communities, and their record sales have jumped.

Many Blacks have listened to countless numbers of ministers shout and condemn to fire and brimstone any

man who dared think about, yearn for, or actually engage in the "godless" and "unnatural act" of having a sexual relationship with another man. If they had any doubts about it, they could always flip to the oft-cited line in Leviticus in the Bible that sternly calls men lying down with men, "the abomination."

The gospel singing Winans sisters drew heavy fire from some gay groups in 1997 for their anti-gay single "Not Natural," but there were no major protests from the Black communities, and their record sales have jumped.

America of the 1990s bears no resemblance to the country of the 1950s. Today, the majority of women must work outside the home. They are better educated, and are pursuing careers in business, the professions and the trades. They have drastically changed the shape of gender and family relations in America. There are all sorts of family combinations in the 1990s that were barely imaginable a generation ago. There are single women, single working men, grandparents, single sex male and

female couples, step parents, foster parents, designated guardians, foster homes, and even children that are raising children.

If the American family still fully resembled the stereotypical "Orzlie and Harriet" family, the list of the mightiest destabilizers of the Black family, would still remain the same: poverty, unemployment, lack of education, chronic disease, violence, drugs, alcoholism, imprisonment, and early death. Homosexuality is not on that list. It's inevitable that as public attitudes change toward gays, more Blacks will come out of the closet and more of us will meet them and get to know them better as people.

In some cases we may discover that we have known them all along as a family members, friends, or acquaintances. This will force even more African Americans to reexamine their defective definitions of manhood and confront their own homophobia. If they don't, thousands more in Black communities will continue to remain at deadly risk from AIDS.

Jersey celebrates Black nurses day

NEWARK—For the past two years presidents of the four chapters and other representatives met and planned two joint activities. The result of these meetings was the establishment of the NJ Council of Black Nurses Association.

The council recently sponsored the celebration of National Black Nurses Day at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Brunswick.

1998 marks the 25th Anniversary of the first local Black Nurses Association in NJ. Concerned Black Nurses of Newark founded by Annette Hubbard in 1973 was the first chapter in New Jersey.

The formation of this organization can be attributed to the foresight of Lauraine Sams, Founder and President Emerita of the National Black Nurses Association. Dr. Sams assembled a caucus of Black nurses at the 1970 ANA Convention to discuss issues pertinent to black nurses and black consumers.

Subsequently the first conference and Institute was planned for Sept. 1973 in Cleveland Ohio. The attendance of nurses from Newark, Hightstown, Goldstone, Annette Hubbard, and Pauline Lewis laid the foundation for

the establishment of Concerned Black Nurses of Newark, Inc.

CBNB's visibility stimulated interest in other nurses all over the state to seek assistance in forming other Black Nurses Associations in NJ. CBNB assisted in the formation of Black nurses associations in New Jersey including Central and Southern NJ, including Southern NJ Black Nurses Association (SNBNA) in 1983, Concerned Black Nurses of Central NJ (CBNCNJ), in 1986, and Northern NJ Black Nurses Association (NJBNA) in 1989.

Members of the NJ Council of Black Nurses Association include: Jean Clark, NJBNA—Immediate Past President,

Diane Manbunb, NNJBNA—President,

Bernice Ferguson, SNBNA—President,

Betty Ingram, CBNB—President,

Louise Ragain, CBNB—Immediate Past President,

Sheila Penn, CBNB—President,

Annette Hubbard, CBNB—Member-At-Large,

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Donate your used car during National Kidney Month

NEW YORK—March is National Kidney Month. With 4,500 people are currently awaiting transplants in New York and New Jersey alone, why not help save lives by donating your used car to the National Kidney Foundation of New York and New Jersey. As "America's #1 choice in car donations," the National Kidney Foundation of New York/ New Jersey will arrange to take your car off your hands free of

charge—even if it's not running. All car donations assist the Kidney Foundation in its fight to drive down the incidence of kidney, hypertensive and urological diseases which affect one in four people in the United States.

For more information on how you can donate a used car, please call the National Kidney Foundation of New York/ New Jersey at 1-800-63-DONATE.



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sponsored by Children's Specialized Hospital

TEEN RECREATION CAMP

AGES 13-17 • June 29 - July 3 • 9am - 4pm • Clark, NJ • 908-233-3720, ext. 5272

Sports, crafts, cooperative and competitive games, and day trips for teens with physical challenges.

"BRING A BUDDY" CAMP

AGES 7-12 • August 24 - 28 • 9am - 4pm • Clark, NJ • 908-233-3720, ext. 5272

Bring a sibling or friend to camp with you for sports, crafts, cooperative games, and day trips.

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL CAMP

AGES 9-15 • August 10-14 • 9am - 4pm • Clark, NJ • 908-233-3720, ext. 5272

Basketball training for junior athletes who use wheelchairs.

SPORTS AND RECREATION CAMP

AGES 5-13 • July 13 - 17 • 9:30am - 4pm • Toms River, NJ • 732-914-1100, ext. 3716

Sports and recreation for children with physical challenges.

PALS PARADISE

AGES 5-13 • August 17 - 21 • 9:30am - 4pm • Toms River, NJ • 732-914-1100, ext. 3716

Creative arts, drama, martial arts, and crafts for children with physical challenges. Friends and siblings are welcome to join as well.

CAMPOREE

AGES 3-6 • August 3 - 7, August 10 - 14, August 17 - 21, August 24 - 28, August 31 - September 4

9am - 3pm • Fanwood, NJ • 908-233-3720, ext. 2528

Arts and crafts and outdoor activities for children with attention problems, learning disabilities, or speech-language deficits.

UNDER THE UMBRELLA

AGES 7-9 • August 3 - 7, August 10 - 14, August 17 - 21, August 24 - 28, August 31 - September 4

9am - 3pm • Fanwood, NJ • 908-233-3720, ext. 2528

Arts and crafts and outdoor activities for children with attention problems, learning disabilities, or speech-language deficits.

CAMP CHATTERBOX

AGES 5-16 • August 16 - 21 • Hackettstown, NJ • 908-233-3720, ext. 5339

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Tickets: \$100

Reserve tickets by April 15, 1998 by calling (908) 754-3400

Business Attire

Religion Calendar

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

UNION CITY—The Passion Play will be performed at 2 p.m. at the Park Performing Arts Center. For more info, call 201-865-6980.

WASHINGTON, DC—ONE, Organization for a New Equality, will present the Medal of Hope Award to Mr. Eugene Ludwig at a dinner at the Sheraton Washington Hotel. For more info, call 202-216-0760.

BROOKLYN—Spirit-Filled Experimental Institute at St. Paul Community Baptist Church through March 23rd. For more info, call 718-257-1301, ext. 157.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

MAHWAH—Steven Emerson will speak at Ramapo College of N.J. in the Alumni Lounge at 7 p.m. His topic, "The Rushdie Rules: Militant Islam and Free Speech," is a critical look at how militant Islam has affected the practice of free speech in the West.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

PLAINFIELD—Voices of 18 states presents "Joy Night" featuring guest speaker, Pastor Donald Struggles of the Agape Love Fellowship Church and musical guest, Onni Presence 7 p.m. at the Rose of Sharon Community Church. For more info, call 732-594-1452.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

DUNELLEN—The Dunellen United Methodist Church is seeking crafters for its 15th Annual Spring Ring Craft show. For more info, call 908-769-6294.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

PLAINFIELD—A special outreach service will be held at the Temple Shalom beginning at 8:15 p.m. Deborah Taylor will be the guest speaker. For more info, call 908-756-6447.

MONDAY, APRIL 13

NEWARK—A "Back to God" crusade revival will be held at the Trinity Baptist Church through April 17th, beginning at 7:15 p.m. For more info, call 973-684-0342.

Giles again leads The Passion Play

The Passion Play at the Park Theatre, 560 32nd St. Union City plays Saturday and Sundays at 2 p.m. now through April 26. Hardly news, since it has done precisely that each Spring since 1931. It also has the same two actors playing Jesus as portrayed the past last year—Joseph Bukovec, now in his 60's and DEZ—Dezi Amaz Giles—who is in his thirties.

The Passion Play is the oldest continually produced production in the U.S., an annual event. Last year, it brewed a tempest in a teapot when it named Giles, an African-American, to the role of Jesus, though no one had complained when he played Herod the year before! This year, casting him a second time has gone virtually unnoticed and that's the big news—that in only one year the community—the world—has accepted the casting of an Afro-American as Jesus. Over 130 years since the Civil War in America, there is still not true equality; but the theatre has leveled the color barrier in the most controversial role of all—the role of Jesus Christ.

Last year and this, co-directors Eric Hafen and Daniel P. Quinn faced the monumental undertaking of over 50 performers in 18 scenes with 15 musical numbers. Together they continue to cast with no regard for race, so we have Hispanic, Black, White. Orientals all being given equal access to roles in this oldest play! There is even a physically challenge actor in the play!

This year, the significant addition of choreographed dance sequences by Linda Telesco of Spirit Dance have been added. But the real news is that



Dezi Amaz Giles is once again playing Jesus, in the 83rd annual presentation of The Passion Play at the Park Theatre, in Union City.

The Passion Play's advance sales are well above last year's at this time! Support this continuation of a great tradition—breaking the color barrier! For further information on group sales or for individual tickets priced at \$20 call 201-865-6980. Also visit their website at passionplayusa.com.

Urban League will hold dinner and celebration

SECAUCUS—The Urban League of Hudson County will hold their 20th Annual Equal Opportunity Day Dinner and Positive Family Image Award Celebration on Thursday, April 30 at the Meadowlands Hilton in Secaucus. City News 100 Most Influential recipient, Ti Hua Chang, reporter, Channel 4, will be the keynote speaker.

For more information on this dinner, call 201 451-8888.



Ti Hua Chang.

Women's retreat scheduled for April 4

NEWARK—An exceptional one-day fellowship designed to encourage you as you seek to rediscover God's face will take place on April 4 at Metropolitan Baptist Church.

Sister to Sister—Building Spiritual Relationships with your sisters in Christ with a full day of activities.

Workshops and speakers are designed to inspire, uplift, and encourage you on your journey with the Lord allowing. You will also be benefit from a brief respite from the frenzy of your busy life.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. As an added treat, there will be an early morning Prayer and Share session beginning at 8 a.m. For more information, call 973-642-2267.

Creative thought crucial for growth

By Junious Ricardo Stanton

"Since new developments are the products of a creative mind, we must therefore stimulate and encourage that type of mind in every way possible." George Washington Carver

Creative thought is crucial for our growth, development and actualization, both on a personal and collective level. For too long people of African descent have allowed others to define us, stereotype us and program us to think against our own best interests. We are all born with the ability to think, to imagine and fashion images in our mind's eye. Our socialization trains us to imitate those we are dependent upon for nurturing, safety and sustenance. However our history in this hemisphere has been one of stark oppression, dehumanization, deprivation and marginality. We were told all Africans could do was sing, dance and serve Whites. We were told we had no history, had contributed nothing to the world's progress and we were lucky to be amongst Europeans. In short we were told we were uncreative and unintelligent.

When we study our history in this hemisphere it is clear that those hardy souls who resisted and overcame the destructive programming of White supremacy did so by thinking creatively. This motivated them to act in their best interests. People like David Walker who wrote his famous Appeal to the Slaves of the United States of America, Toussaint L'Ouverture in Haiti, Henry Highland Garnet, Nat Turner, Martin R. Delaney, Harriet Tubman, Ida Wells Barnett, Marcus Garvey, John Henrik Clark, Malcolm X and countless others allowed their brilliance and creativity to shine through. Yes, some barely learned to read and write, while others attained a certain educational status, however each one thought for himself, refusing to abdicate his or her's innate faculty of mind to outsiders. They used their creativity to grapple with the issues of their day and the situation of their people. Their actions were motivated by the quest for freedom, self-actualization and human dignity. This is a legacy we must continue. The African world view is one of cyclical continuity, the ancestors, the living and the unborn form a continuous link one to another.

Our African ancestors were the creators of civilization, science, metaphysics, philosophy, religion and

much more. We owe it to them, to ourselves and our progeny to employ our creative faculties and talents to the fullest. We must be original and not compromise our souls. We can never be all we are capable of until we free our minds and unleash our inborn talents. There is genius in a vast reservoir of creativity in all of us. We have the ability and capacity to think anything that has been thought prior to now and to create new ideas, images and mental scenarios. In thought, our potential and possibilities are limitless. We do ourselves a great "dis-service" by thinking self-deprecating thoughts, by hating ourselves, by thinking limitation, lack and deprivation. If we are to be truly free, our thoughts must be unfettered and our dreams and visions must be greater than our present experiences and reality. This is how we elevate ourselves and our race. David Walker dreamed of free Black people, so did Marcus Garvey. So must we.

Freedom means the ability to think whatever we choose. Creativity and freedom mean actualizing our innate divinity, rather than conforming to demeaning stereotypes and settling for less than our best. Courage means trusting yourself and having confidence in your own abilities and talents. Trusting one's self means believing you have within you the resources, aptitude and abilities to create and pursue your own destiny. As Carver said, "we must stimulate and encourage that type of mind in every way possible." Dream big dreams. If you desire to be a scientist or own and operate your own business, don't allow anyone to stifle your ambition. Or

that you're not smart or talented enough. Our history in America is replete with examples of men and women who were told they couldn't do this or that, yet they accomplished their goals and objectives.

You have the power and capacity to create—exercise it. Thinking is creating. Energy follows thought. Ideas are the building blocks of reality. The Law of Use says, use it or lose it. If you don't develop your talents and faculties they will atrophy. Develop your own concepts about life; especially if you think those you are getting from society are holding you back or are untrue. You are capable of original and brilliant thought. Try it. It will all profit from it, together.

CITY NEWS

Defining who we are

Far from the stereotypes that portray black people daily in the media, black folk are law-abiding God-fearing people who value family, education, and quality living.

Now more than ever, black people must come together across religions, organizations, fraternal orders, professions, communities to make a firm statement about who we are, what we stand for, and what we will do to achieve our collective goals of Religious Freedom, equal protection under the law, civil and voting rights, quality education for all black children, quality housing, jobs, access to opportunity and economic development in black communities.

Following in the tradition of the Black Press, City News continues to strive to be the source of black issues, concerns and achievements.

During March, Black Press Month, City News launches The Network, a partnership to unite and inform people throughout New Jersey about the progress of New Jersey's black communities and the people who make it happen.

For more information, call 908.754.3400 to obtain The Network guide or fax us at 908.753.1036.

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Artz Wednesday

March 25-March 31, 1998

City News B4

Billboard

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

NEW BRUNSWICK—"Crumbs from the Table of Joy" will be performed at Crossroads Theatre through March 28th. It is a memory play set in 1950, told from the perspective of 17-year-old Ernestine Crump about the events which occurred during her senior year at high school. The play begins at 8 p.m. For more info, call 732-249-5550.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

EAST ORANGE—Senior Citizens are invited to see the movie, "Roses. The Gift" which is when Kunta and Fiddler make a break for freedom. This movie will be shown at East Orange Public Library at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

PLAINFIELD—A workshop for visual artists, "Approaching art galleries and alternative spaces" from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the duCret School of the Arts. For more info, 908-558-2550

PLAINFIELD—The Red Room, a fine art gallery specializing in the works of African American Artists, has opened at 900 Park Ave. Ms. Nette Thomas, a featured artist at the Gallery, will be speaking about her work from 2 to 3 p.m. The public is invited. For more info, call 908-791-9700.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—Stars of the Shanghai Acrobatic Theater will perform 7 p.m. at Montclair State University's School of the Arts. For more info, call 973-655-5112.

WATCHUNG—Margo Hennebach and Mark Saunders will perform at 8 p.m. at the Watchung Arts Center. Margo uses her voice more as an instrument, blending a Celtic sound with jazz melodies to what she calls a Folk Fusion. Mark is an accomplished guitarist playing the backdoor for her beautiful sound. For more info, call 732-424-0384.

HEMPSTEAD—The Department of Music presents the Hofstra Faculty Artist Concert at 8 p.m. in the Morrice Hall Lecture Center, South Campus. For more info, call 516-463-5490.

NEW YORK—Jazz for young people: What is Coor? Will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Alcazar Tully Hall. For more info, call 212-475-6567.

CALDWELL—The Concerts at Caldwell College continues its second annual concert series in the Alumni Theater at 8 p.m. For more info, call 973-228-4424, ext. 520.

MONDAY, MARCH 30

NEWARK—NJPCA celebrates the life of Paul Robeson with a multimedia presentation in the Banquet Room at 7 p.m. For more info, call 1-888-466-5722.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

NEW BRUNSWICK—The State Theatre presents "Ballet Hispanico" at 8 p.m. For more info, call 732-246-7469.

NEWARK—The Newark Museum focuses on its extensive Chinese holdings with an exhibition that features 50 Chinese and 12 costumes and costumes ranging in time from the Neolithic period to the 19th century. The exhibit will remain on view through May 31st. For more info, call 973-596-6550.

NEWARK—NJPCA celebrates the life of Paul Robeson with a sneak preview of a new work in progress documentary in the Victoria Theater 7 p.m. For more info, call 1-888-466-5722.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

NEWARK—NJPCA celebrates the life of Paul Robeson with a new play by Chase Davis, Paul Robeson, All American, in the Victoria Theater 7 p.m. For more info, call 1-888-466-5722.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

NEW YORK—The Whitney Museum of American Arts new Permanent Collection gallery is set to open to the public. More than 100 works will be displayed continuously on the fifth floor of the Museum. For more info, call 212-570-3633.

NEW YORK—The Essence and Pepsi World Awards will be held at Harlem School of the Arts from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info, call 212-642-0000.

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

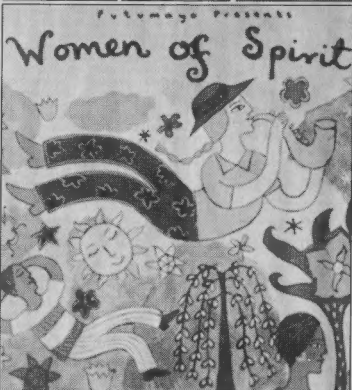
NEW YORK—"On the Town" will reopen on Broadway at the St. James Theatre. For more info, call 212-239-6200.

NEW YORK—The Costume Institute of The Metropolitan Museum of Art presents an exhibition, "American Ingenuity" which explores the work of pioneering generations of sportswear designers through August 19th. For more info, call 212-570-3511.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

CAPE MAY—The 9th Cape May Jazz Festival will be held at The Grand Hotel Pinelands Ballroom; the Top of the Marg and the Gold White; Barn; The Rusty Nail and The Café at Congress Hall. For more info, call 609-884-7277.

Women of Spirit: The CD



NEW YORK—The Women of Spirit CD captures the spirit of an internationalist work of female recording artists including: Ani DiFranco, Cassandra Wilson, Toshi Reagon and Bernice Johnson Reagon from the USA; Karen Matheson of Capersville in Scotland; with Shiba of Guinea, West Africa; Susana Bica of Peru; Fortuna of Brazil; Tarkia of Madagascar; Rasha of the Sudan; Sibongile Khumalo of South Africa; Ina Gaiguen of Spain; Coco Mbassi of Cameroon; Savina Yarnato of Greece; and Groupe Ouyem of the Sudan. A portion of the proceeds from the Women of Spirit CD will be donated to GROOTS, an international network of grassroots women's organizations. The CD liner notes feature an introductory passage from Maya Angelou's "Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now."

Real-life drama looms near opening of 'Primary Colors'

By Laura Meckler
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—Who needs the evening news when "Primary Colors" is playing at the local theater? In a town where politics is entertainment, and news is the story of sex, scandal and a man who would be president. As the film based on President Bill Clinton's 1992 campaign opened nationwide Friday, the allegations of Paula Jones ... and Monica Lewinsky ... and Kathleen Willey weren't far from many moviegoers' minds. Some predicted the president's real-life troubles will help bring audiences to the film. But many who said it Friday at Washington's Uptown Theatre—decked out in red, white and blue lighting for the occasion—said John Travolta's portrayal of the Clintonage Jack Stanton was likely to help Clinton more than hurt him.

"He's a human being. We're all

human beings," said Marc Kaplowitz, who was visiting from New York City. "One message was that even though flawed, he's better than the rest," said Bob Cobb of Washington. Only in Washington would viewers be preoccupied by such questions, said Ben Jones, the actor who once ran the New Line Cinema for Congress and has a small part in "Primary Colors." Jones saw the premiere in Los Angeles before viewing the movie in Washington with an audience of political pundits and then inviting 100 friends. "In Los Angeles, he said, audiences noticed costumes and sound direction. In Washington, they think political failure." What Jones' analysis? The movie isn't "totally unimpeachable" to the Clinton-like character. He's adding that nothing in the film will damage Clinton as much as his own behavior does. "The really important questions are, do the ends justify the means? At what point do we compromise our ideals for our agenda?" he said.

Top Du Tour

Beauty, an attribute as deceptive as the biblical forbidden fruit, isn't chosen or purchased at the flea market, yet it's handed down the family tree. And, you don't pick beauty (unfortunately, it picks you), Salli Richardson, most known for her scene-snatching roles in "Posse," "Love Down Dirty Shame," and "The Great White Hypo," is beautiful beyond descriptive terms in a very androgynous sort of way, but the Chicago native wants the world to know that she's not just another pretty face. Approaching Stanton's review board with her debut album and she's working on her second album and she's creating a buzz on the small screen. According to Usher Raymond, the double platinum teen R & B sensation, who is playing a woman with good of fashioned Christian values in an untitled series coming out this spring.

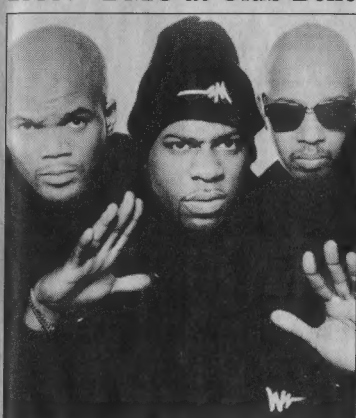
The series, which by Usher's description seems to be a spin off of "Anon" with a fun, hip hop twist, will incorporate the type of lessons every mother and father should be teaching their children. And Salli, her character keeps things working smoothly in the church. What I like about Salli is that she's so pretty, but she doesn't use that as an excuse to act stuck up."

Although while not apologizing for her stroke of good luck in the City News: Being as attractive as she is like swallowing a double edition



Salli Richardson has the chance to swap soccer with the athletic action and this is what she had to say. "My mother and father should be teaching their children. And Salli, her character keeps things working smoothly in the church. What I like about Salli is that she's so pretty, but she doesn't use that as an excuse to act stuck up."

RUN - DMC at Club Bene



SOUTH AMBOY—In addition to their musical milestones, Run-DMC have been responsible for the introduction of new dances, new fashions, new language, new energy. They have been largely responsible, in short, for nothing less than the hip-hopification of popular culture. The group that put the "hip" into "hip hop," Run-DMC will be performing in concert at the Club Bene, located on Rt. 35 in Sayreville, on Saturday, March 28, for one night only. On this one evening the doors will open at 9 a.m., with the performance set to start at 11 p.m. Admission is \$20, and you must be over 21 to drink. It would be hard to overstate Run-DMC's influence on pop culture during the decade that has elapsed since they released "Raising Hell/Profile." Run-DMC have succeeded beyond anyone's wildest dreams. They were the first rappers to earn a gold album, Run-DMC/Profile the first to earn a platinum album, King of Rock/Profile the first to go multi-platinum. "Raising Hell/Profile" the first to go multi-platinum, Raising Hell/Profile the first to have their videos on MTV, the first to appear on "American Bandstand" and "Saturday Night Live," and the first rap band to grace the cover of *Rolling Stone* and *Spin*.

Bottoms up and down the hatch

SPRING LAKE—The Drinking Buddies Guide to the Nightspots of the Jersey Shore gives useful, down-to-earth night life information exclusively for a vacation or a resident of the Shore area. It is an invaluable tool for finding the fun that suits your desires. No other information source devotes itself exclusively to the area as does this years' South Monmouth edition. The indexes cross reference the attractions at each location. So, if you are looking for a place to show-off your shuffle board, enjoy a new bar or hear music, you can narrow your search fast. The Drinking Buddies Guide only helps you pick a place for your night out but you get there with maps and transportation information. The Drinking Buddies Guide is available in news stands, record stores and clubs. To mail order your copy, send a check payable to "Crossings" for \$8 (\$6.95 plus \$1.00 sales tax and shipping) to Crossings, PO Box 10776, Spring Lake, NJ 07766.



by a beautiful woman... unfortunately, I think I'm beautiful inside and out, but some men don't get to see that. They only want what they see on the outside. They don't want to get to know the real kind of you. I'm really kind of sad. City News: What have you learned about yourself from your past roles? Salli: That I'm not an evil person. I'm really centered and I love people. I'm not the type to step on other women's toes. I don't try to steal your man. I'm nothing like my character in "Love Down Dirty Shame." That girl was evil and I never want to be her again. It was fun, but I was really far removed from who I really am.

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Artz Briefs

Black and White in Exile to Air on NJN

NEW YORK—Black and White in Exile examines more than 37 years of Cuban and Haitian exile in the United States and their impact on their host communities in the U.S. as well as on the average American citizen. Full of human drama, the series includes looks at explosive inner-city clashes between exiles and residents, traumatic fallout from terrorist bombings, daring rescues at sea, high stakes struggles for political empowerment, heartbreaking stories of orphaned children and joyful tales of family reunions. This new series of six 30-minute programs that tell the dramatic story of Cubans and Haitians in the United States and the struggle to survive in the New America, will air on New Jersey Network on three consecutive Sundays beginning April 5 at 10 p.m. Black and White in Exile is produced and directed by New Jersey-based Ray Blanco of Union County.

Assassinated: The Last Days of King And Kennedy airs April 5

ATLANTA—1968: It was one of this country's most turbulent years, marked by the United States' escalating involvement in the war in Vietnam and rising demand for social and economic justice at home. Within the swirl of chaos, the deaths of two men brought the country to a standstill. Now, 30 years later, Oscar-winning filmmaker Oliver Stone, makes his first foray into documentary filmmaking with *Assassinated: The Last Days Of King And Kennedy*. This gripping two-hour documentary is premiering Sunday, April 5, 9 p.m. exclusively on TBS Superstation. The documentary focuses on the last months in the lives of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy—men whose decisions put them on a collision course with history. Kennedy's political journey took him into the right wing agenda of Joe McCarthy to the liberal policies of John F. Kennedy. After his brother's death, Kennedy became increasingly concerned about civil rights, economic equality and an end to the war in Vietnam. King, too, went through a metamorphosis. By 1968, King, who had been seen exclusively as a civil rights leader, reached out to embrace a broader ideology that challenged the country's economic status quo and called for a case fire in Vietnam.

Assassinated brings an end to their lives and, for many, their dreams. King was assassinated while standing on the balcony of his hotel on April 4, 1968. Exactly two months later, Kennedy was killed on June 4, 1968, in Los Angeles just after giving a speech celebrating victory in the California Democratic primary.

'Going Places' visits popular vacation spots

NEW YORK—Why is a battlefield in Maryland a top attraction for tourists? Where in South Africa can you enjoy surfing, hiking, caving, helicopter-hopping and big game adventure all in a day? Is San Francisco capable of shaking up your ideas about everything from earthquakes to luxury hotels? Or are you the kind of traveler who prefers a mound of gold to a bet on the thoroughbreds, and a nice pint of ale amidst the rolling green hills of Ireland? **GOING PLACES**, presented for PBS by THIRTEEN/WNET in New York, invites viewers to tag along for a fun-filled tour of some of the world's most popular vacation spots. Virtually every aspect of a place is explored and sampled, from culture and history, to shopping and dining, to recreation and sightseeing. **GOING PLACES** hits all the highlights of favorite vacation destinations and then takes a turn off-the-beaten-path.

The series, hosted by actor James Avery (Fresh Prince of Bel Air, *Sparks*), airs on nine consecutive Mondays, premiering May 11, at 8 p.m.

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NEW BRUNSWICK HOUSING AUTHORITY
CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
WATER SERVICE REPLACEMENT
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Sealed bids for Contract 97-1 will be received at the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick, 18 1/2 City Avenue, New Brunswick New Jersey 08901 until time 10:00 a.m. prevailing local time April 14, 1998, at which time said bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The Contract consists of the furnishing and installation of approximately 150 linear feet of 8" diameter iron water main, meter pit and meter valves, fitting, well caps, and all appurtenant work, including restoration, all as more particularly indicated, shown or described in the Specifications and Contract Documents.

Contract Documents may be examined at the offices of the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick at the above address or at the offices of the Engineer, Pricewaterhouse Coopers, 120 Central Avenue, Piscataway, New Jersey 08854.

Copies of Contract Documents may be obtained only from the offices of the Housing Authority, upon the presentation of the name and mailing address of the interested party and the payment of a non-refundable charge of \$50.00 for reproduction and processing. Checks shall be made payable to the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick.

All bids must be accompanied by bid security. The bid security shall be in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond executed by the principal and surety company authorized in fact and witnessed and attested to with the power of attorney attached in the amount of 10% of the amount of the bid but not to exceed \$200,000.00 and made payable to the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick.

In addition to the certified check, cashier's check or bid bond as bid security, each bid must be accompanied by a Consent of Surety of a surety company licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey and acceptable to the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick that in event of an award of a Contract to the bidder, said surety will furnish the required bonds in the sum of the full amount of the bid asset form and as required herein.

The successful Bidder must furnish a 100% Performance Bond and 100% Labor and Material Payment Bond and a 10% Maintenance Bond.

Should the successful Bidder to which this Contract is awarded fail to comply with the above provisions as to the submission of the required bonds fully executed or to execute the Contract within the time required herein, the Owner may at its sole discretion, declare the successful Bidder in default, and shall be entitled to retain the bid security.

Any general information regarding this "Notice" should be directed to Alan Jacobs, Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick Engineer, (732) 457-0700 ext. 128. The Engineer will only respond to specific questions on the Contract Documents if same are received in writing at least 10 days prior to the bid date listed above.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of New Jersey P.L. 1975, C.127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27), Affirmative Action, P.L. 1963, C.150, Prevailing Wage Act, and P.L. 1975, C.233, Disclosure of Interests, as amended and supplemented.

The Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any informalities or immaterial differences should the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick deem it to be in the public interest to do so.

By order of the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick

John Clarke
Acting Executive Director

THE OLD BRIDGE TOWNSHIP HOUSING AUTHORITY (OBTHA) SEEKS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP'S)

To provide comprehensive housing counseling to income eligible households seeking Old Bridge Township home purchases. Respondents provide group and individual sessions helping households become "mortgage ready" and eligible for OBTHA Down Payment or Settlement loans. Evaluation criteria: Cost, Experience, Curriculum, References, and Professional Certifications. Completed RFP's (no faxes) due Friday, April 3, 1998 by 4:00 p.m. Call Renay Givens at 732-721-5500 extension 5415 for a complete RFP application.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY 07712

COMMISSIONER RICKS presents the following resolution
COMMISSIONER RICHMAN seconds the following resolution

RESOLUTION Notice of Annual Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park, New Jersey, that the Annual Meeting of the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park shall be held April 13, 1998, at 8:00 p.m. at the Board of Commissioners' Conference Room, in the Administrative Office, 1000 1/2 Third Avenue, Asbury Park, New Jersey. The Public Meeting will be opened at 8 p.m. If necessary, the Board will meet in Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. Thereafter, the Board will hold a Workshop Session. The public portion of the meeting will reconvene immediately following Workshop Session, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purposes of the above Annual Meeting are: (1) for annual organization and reorganization of the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park; (2) to compile and disseminate a schedule of the Regular Meetings to be held by the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park during the upcoming fiscal year; and (3) to conduct such other business as may be necessary for the annual organization and reorganization of the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, denominated "NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING," be posted on the bulletin board in the Asbury Park City Hall, Asbury Park, New Jersey, and that a copy of this resolution be filed with the City Clerk of the City of Asbury Park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Asbury Park Press, the Coaster, the City News and at least seven (7) days prior to said meeting, and posted in City Hall, Asbury Park, County Clerks Office, County of Monmouth.

VOTE ON RESOLUTION

Commissioner Ricka - yes
Commissioner Hughes - yes
Commissioner Luskas - absent
Commissioner McGill - absent
Commissioner Piana - yes
Commissioner Richman - yes
Commissioner Shelton - yes
I hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park, on the 13th day of April, 1998.
Candida Sweeney, Secretary
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of March, 1998.
Nancy L. Goide

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus, New Jersey will receive proposals for a contract for testing, maintenance and inspection services on its fire alarm system at: Rocco Improvato Trow HUD Project NJ025-001, 600 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey.

Proposals will be received until 4:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 26th, 1998 at the offices of the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus, 700 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey. Proposal documents will be on file beginning February 25th, 1998 at the offices of the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus.

The building and the fire alarm equipment will be available for examination between the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. and 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. Monday through Friday. All parties interested in examining the equipment must contact the office prior to going to the building.

All persons submitting a proposal will be required to comply with all Equal Employment Opportunity requirements and pay no less than the prevailing wage rates as established by the U.S. Department of Labor.

This Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or to waive any informalities in the proposal process.

No proposal will be withdrawn for a period of any (60) days subsequent to opening of the proposals without the consent of the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF SECAUCUS
William F. Snyder
Executive Director

NJ TRANSIT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJ Transit) is conducting public hearings in order to gather information and receive comments from interested parties concerning programs developed pursuant to the Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Act (DCSTAR). A hearing will be held in each geographic region in accordance with Section 5 of P.L. 1984 c.578 of SDDRTP. Each hearing will have an afternoon and evening session. The locations are in Trenton, NJ, Holy and Newark, New Jersey in accordance with the statute.

The Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Program funds capital, operating and/or administrative programs for locally controlled paratransit services for senior citizens and people with disabilities. The program also funds accessibility improvements to NJ TRANSIT's fixed route bus and rail system, the provision of technical assistance to the counties and the administration of the statewide program. The hearings will provide an update on NJ TRANSIT's progress in implementing its Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility improvements including Access Link paratransit and key rail stations. All materials to be reviewed at these hearings are available in accessible format on request. Individuals requesting sign language interpreters should contact Albert R. Hasbrouck, III at (973) 491-7022 no later than five (5) business days prior to the public hearing or an interpreter will not be available for the particular hearing.

The public is invited to these hearings at which time they will have a full opportunity to express their views. In order to assure that all members of the public are given an opportunity to hear, initial presentations will be limited to five (5) minutes. If you are unable to attend any of the hearings, written comments to the hearing may be sent to Albert R. Hasbrouck, III, New Jersey Transit Corporation, One Penn Plaza East, Newark, New Jersey 07102-2046 by May 7, 1998. In accordance with above statute, public hearings will be held as follows:

SOUTHERN REGION:
PLACE: New Jersey Department of Transportation Multi-Purpose Meeting Room
1035 Parkway Avenue
Trenton, NJ 08647

DATE: April 28, 1998, Tuesday
TIME: 2:00 pm - Conclusion (Afternoon Session) and 6:00 pm - Conclusion (Evening Session)

NORTHWEST REGION:
PLACE: Burlington County Administration Building Board Room - 1st floor
440 Rockwood Place
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060

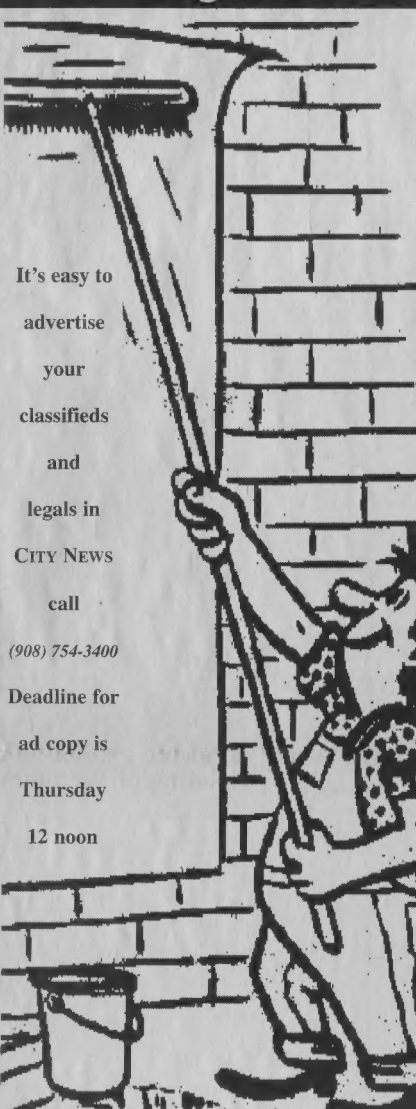
DATE: April 30, 1998, Thursday
TIME: 2:00 pm - Conclusion (Afternoon Session) and 6:00 pm - Conclusion (Evening Session)

NORTHERN REGION:
PLACE: NJ Transit Corporation Headquarters Board Room - 9th floor
One Penn Plaza East
Newark, NJ 07102

DATE: May 6, 1998, Wednesday
TIME: 2:00 pm - Conclusion (Afternoon Session) and 6:00 pm - Conclusion (Evening Session)

Shirley A. DelBello
Executive Director
New Jersey Transit Corporation
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We have additional part-time positions available for retail associates. If you are interested in finding out more about these opportunities, please inquire when you call.

CERTIFIED POLICE OFFICERS

The Housing Authority of the City of Salem is accepting applications for Certified Police Officers to work part-time for the Authority. Must be a certified Police Officer or certified as a full-time Police Officer and presently employed as a certified Police Officer or have been employed as a certified Police Officer within the last 12 months; also, must have at least 1 year of experience as a full-time, certified Police Officer when employment application is submitted. If interested, please contact Ruth O. Gross, PHM, Executive Director at the Housing Authority of the City of Salem, 255 Seventh Street, Salem, NJ 08078.

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ACCOUNTANT

Public Housing Agency seeks individual with accounting degree and 1 - 2 years experience. Duties include various aspects of accounting CO, CL, and analysis, and HUD financial reports. PG illustrate with knowledge of spreadsheets and word processing in DOS and windows environment. Knowledge of MAS 90 system a plus. Salary \$18.00/hr. 40 hrs/week and good benefits. Send resume to:

Passaic Housing Authority
333 Passaic St., Passaic, NJ 07055
Attn: Sandra Ortiz
Equal Opportunity Employer

HELP WANTED

COMPTROLLER

Public Housing Agency seeks individual to oversee financial operations. Responsible for budgets, financial reports, HUD financial requirements and submission of 6 person staff. Should have HUD accounting experience, computer literacy knowledge of MAS 90 system a plus, familiarity with State & Public Housing, and Comprehensive Grant Programs. Send resumes to:

Passaic Housing Authority
333 Passaic Street, Passaic, NJ 07055
Attn: Sandra Ortiz
Equal Opportunity Employer

PHOTOGRAPHER**

Freelance photographers wanted to cover events throughout New Jersey. Reimbursed for travel expenses. Must be responsible. Developing not necessary. We supply film. Willing to work with new photographers. Send resume and preferred work hours to: City News Personnel, PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060.

Teacher, educator wanted

To write and edit a 4-page, monthly National Teacher's Guide. At least two years of teaching experience necessary, preferably grades 6 and up. Send resume to: Y Teacher's Guide, P.O. Box 191, Plainfield, NJ 07060

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